

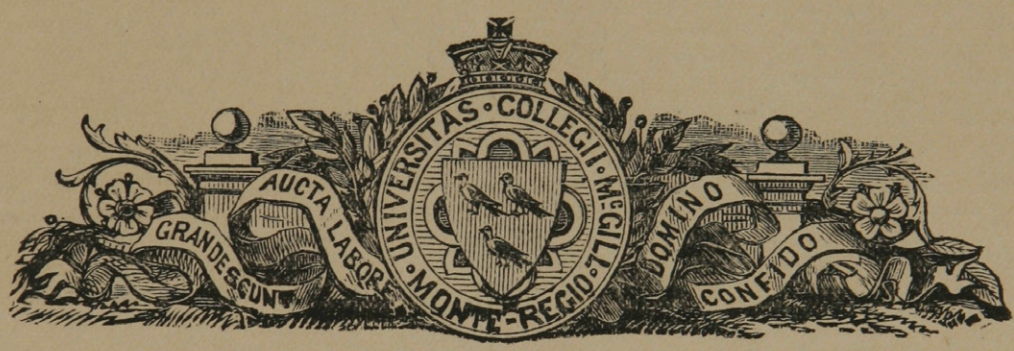
M. H. Layton

Vol. VII.

No. 7.

McGILL UNIVERSITY GAZETTE

Friday, February 15th, 1884.



CONTENTS:

	PAGE.		PAGE.
SONG - - - - -	1	SNOWSHOEING BY MOONLIGHT - - - - -	8
EDITORIALS - - - - -	1-2	COLLEGE WORLD - - - - -	8-10
CONTRIBUTIONS - - - - -	2-6	BETWEEN THE LECTURES - - - - -	10-11
CORRESPONDENCE - - - - -	6	NEW BOOKS - - - - -	11
SPORTING NEWS - - - - -	6-8		

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UNIVERSITY GAZETTE

VOL. VII.]

McGILL COLLEGE, MONTREAL, FEBRUARY 15TH, 1884.

[No. 7.]

McGILL UNIVERSITY GAZETTE.

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Rejected Communications will not be returned, to which rule no exception can be made. The name of the writer must always accompany a communication.

SONG.

(Translated from Henry Murger.)

Rosy mouth, and velvet lips
Half-unclosed, as if for song—
Rose, the merry-hearted, trips
Lightly, as a bird, along.
Watch her—she is bending down,
Plucking from the yellow corn
Blue-eyed blossoms for a crown,
Fit her beauty to adorn.
See! her tresses float afar
On the air, in golden rings,
At the hour when twilight's star
Herdsman to the hamlet brings.
Rose, whose heart is beating quick,
As she strays the meadows through,
Petals from a flower doth pick,
Fain to learn if love be true.
Blossoms, woven for a crown
While the Summer sweetly smells,
Daisy petals, dropping down,
Love's mysterious oracles—
All will quickly fade, and naught,
Rose, will soon be left for thee,
But the withered flowerets brought
From the fields of Memory.

GEO. MURRAY.

Editorials.

WE feel sure that it will give the friends of this University unmixed pleasure to see from our College News that in all probability we shall soon be called upon once more to acknowledge a princely gift from a citizen of Montreal. A rumour has come to us that upon the arrival of our respected Principal from Europe an offer will be made by a benefactor, whose name is at present unknown to us, to erect a building in front of Dr. Dawson's residence to exactly correspond with the Redpath Museum on the other side. This new building, we believe, is to contain a large Convocation Hall and class-rooms for the Faculty of Applied Science. The present Convocation Room in Molsons Hall, which has long been felt to be quite inadequate for the purpose will then form part of the library, and room will thus be found for the books which have already commenced to overflow their shelves. We sincerely hope that this rumour will not turn out to be false. What a fitting welcome the news of this magnificent gift will be for Dr. Dawson on his return to Montreal. It was only on the 27th of last

March, in the Annual University Lecture that he pointed out the wants still unsupplied in the Faculty of Applied Science in these words, "It (the Faculty of Applied Science) is working under great disadvantages in the absence of a suitable building, and we have even been under the necessity of considering the expediency of discontinuing one of its courses of study, that of mechanical engineering, which is now provided for by extra labour on the part of professors having other duties. To place this Faculty on a secure basis, we need a building costing at least \$50,000, and an additional endowment fund of at least \$40,000." It will, we imagine, be no small gratification for him to find that the greater part of what he asked for has so soon been provided. The gift will be one of the most opportune and substantial which has ever been made to the University, and we hope that the donor's name will be permanently associated with the building.

To many who occasionally feel discouraged at the prospects of higher education in this province this news will be very cheering, and we know that it will be cause for hope and renewed efforts to those immediately engaged in the work. There need be no fear for the future of a country where such sacrifices are made for the sake of aiding intellectual advancement.

A grand feature in the history of McGill University is the number of men and women who have nobly come forward at different stages to help in building up this national institution. Many other universities have received much larger gifts, but we think that the number of our benefactors will be found to exceed those of most other colleges. This fact seems to show a general love for our University, and a widespread desire amongst our citizens to promote culture, which is most gratifying to those who remember how important the intellectual side of life is. As we think on this subject we are to look back, and looking back we see a goodly array of names occupying the years from 1821 to the present time. McGill, Molson, Skakel, Redpath, Miss Barbara Scott, Mills, Greenshields, Mrs. Stewart, Donald A. Smith, McDonald and Mackay, are the names of some of those who have helped to make this University what it is to-day. Many besides, whose names would be too numerous to mention, have subscribed liberally to the general endowment fund. If this list of eminent names goes on increasing as we have seen it do in the last few years, McGill University will soon occupy a position of usefulness equalled by few others on this continent. Our sincere wish is that it may so increase.

IN a contribution published in this number what we may call the liquor question in universities is dealt with in a very earnest and outspoken manner. We cannot help stating, however, that we think the writer's strong feeling has led him to state the case in a somewhat exaggerated form, and that his remarks, if published without comment, would be calculated to give to our readers very erroneous impressions as to the morals of university students in general and our own students in particular. We are not inclined to believe that any great number

of students are given to the vice of drinking "whiskeys straight," and we imagine that many indulge in boasting about how much they can imbibe who seldom or never taste a drop. This large talk may have imposed somewhat upon the writer of the contribution and led him to think the state of affairs much worse than it actually is. In German universities beer drinking is a general custom, and although the beer is remarkably weak and in comparison with whiskey almost harmless, we presume that cases of drunkenness do occur occasionally. But such scenes as that described in the article on "Student Life in Germany" we believe occur but rarely. Excess, as far as it is to be measured by immediate effects, is the exception not the rule. At the same time too, it must be remembered that this custom of drinking beer together possesses many advantages of a social character. Amongst McGill students we are glad to say that comparatively little intemperance exists as far as we are aware.

The teetotal question is one which we feel bound to abstain from discussing, considering it as we do to belong to the class of excluded subjects in which are also included religious and political disputes, and the highly interesting but exceedingly treacherous theme of women's rights, but at the same time we may express a hope that the remarks in the contribution referred to will be read and seriously examined and that they may have the effect of lessening still further what little intemperance at present exists amongst us.

THE LATE CHANCELLOR DAY.

It was with the deepest feeling of regret that we heard of the rather sudden death of our respected Chancellor in London, England, on the 31th ult. The honorable gentleman had not been in the best of health for some time past and had gone to Europe on that account, but still his death was quite unexpected and the announcement caused quite a shock not only in Montreal but throughout the whole Dominion. Judge Day had long been regarded as one of our most eminent citizens and was very generally esteemed in Canada and in the Old Country where he was born. The late Chancellor first made his mark in political life. He entered parliament at the Union in 1841 as member for the County of Ottawa, and was called with Sullivan, Draper, Baldwin and others to the Executive Council by the Governor-General, Lord Sydenham. He was made Solicitor-General for Lower Canada, but he held office through only one session, after which he retired from public life to accept a seat on the judicial bench. While a member of the administration Mr. Day introduced an important measure to make provision for the establishment and maintenance of common schools throughout the Province. Among other things, it provided an annual sum of \$200,000 for the establishment of elementary schools in Upper and Lower Canada. Under the provisions of this Act elementary schools were soon in operation all over the Province, and although the measure was not free from objectionable features, on the whole it proved a national blessing. Judge Day continued to discharge the duties of a judge of the Superior Court until his superannuation in 1864. In 1857 he was appointed with two other judges a Commissioner for the codification of the laws of Lower Canada. His work extended from 1859 to 1864, and his labours in connection therewith will ever be borne in grateful remembrance. But it was as Chancellor of this University that Judge Day was best known to us. He was appointed to the office immediately after his re-

tiring from the bench and he continued to labour for the advancement of education and the welfare of the University down to the time of his death. He was also President of the Royal Institution. During the whole time that he was connected with the College Chancellor Day took the deepest interest in its affairs, and the loss which the University has sustained in his death will not easily be repaired.

Earth has no scene, however bright and fair,
 Tho' golden floods and beauteous skies are there,
 Unhallowed by the magic of the past,
 With power its image in the heart to cast.
 The sweetest flowers their crimson leaves may throw,
 Unblest, unnoted, to the radiant glow
 Of eastern suns; the purest stream may glide,
 Bright foliage twining o'er its silver tide,
 Through vales of perfume, circling isles of light
 Unloved, unhonored, if no spell be cast
 Upon those flowers, that stream, by love or glory;
 But bring the rich memorials of the past,
 The hallowed legacy of ancient story,
 And all is fair and beautiful, and bright.

Montreal, 1829.

W. F. HAWLEY.

Contributions.

WHISKEY STRAIGHT.

A very interesting article has been lately contributed to the *McGill Gazette* giving an account of Student Life in Germany. A noticeable feature of the article is the amount of space which the writer occupies in describing the drinking habits of our German brothers. In a country which has attained to a world-wide reputation in all matters pertaining to education, a country which has produced some of the greatest thinkers and philosophers of the last two centuries, and which is made the "finishing off" school for students of every nationality, it seems strange and inconsistent to find such prominence given to habits that, to say the least, are coarse and unmanly. It is another illustration of the proverb, "extremes meet." If the writer referred to, has given us anything like a true picture of student life in Germany, then we are forced to the conclusion that higher education there has failed to lift its followers above the low plane of animalism and brutality.

It is an inexplicable anomaly that those endowed with a liberal education and mental culture should be found indulging in a practice so far removed from everything that savours of refinement and strength of character. Leaving the element of religion out of the question, and treating it on social and moral grounds only, one is surely justified in expecting that the influence of university life would correct and check such low tastes and put something better in their place.

The universities of Canada and the United States present the same remarkable phenomenon. It cannot be denied, that there are those amongst us who would think themselves greatly lacking in a sort of manliness if they could not distinguish themselves by taking their "whiskey straight." They would feel more ashamed of failing in this than of coming short at an examination. Most jealously do they guard their reputation for wine-bibbing and whiskey guzzling. Why this is the case we cannot tell. The reason may be that it is the shortest road to a notoriety which some crave, even at the expense of their well-being, physical and moral. For it is easy to distinguish one's self in this line. Success here demands no careful preparation, no laborious work, no exhaustive and persistent toil. The possession of intellect is no condition for its successful prosecution. He who is a dunce in class-room and an idler in the study can here find a wide field for the display of his powers, a field in which he may become a conspicuous object. This is the motive, we presume, which actuates many in making such unseemly spectacles of themselves. Before the appetite has become master, the barbaric love of notice for notice's sake, urges many to make themselves contemptible and loathsome fools.

We have heard it said publicly that the students of McGill are being beaten. In the lofty and inspiring accomplishment of taking our "whiskey straight" we have been superseded. The proud pre-eminence which for years we have maintained against all competitors has been taken from us. We have been eclipsed and our glory is departed forever. In the American universities a mightier race has arisen of which our neighbors may well be proud; a race of larger appetite, of stronger stomach and of coarser fibre, the lustre of whose achievements quite leaves us in the shade.

It is a strange competition for men who are supposed to be engaged in far higher pursuits. They are supposed to be diligently searching out ways and means by which the world will be made better and its life purer. It is, therefore, humiliating to find them engaged in eager rivalry as to who can carry on most perfectly the process of dehumanization. And if that be our object we have come far below the standard. There are noble rivals nearer home. For many a sot that reels along the street or sleeps in the gutter can show a more glorious record and can boast of more brilliant exploits, than the champion guzzler of the universities. In attaining this proficiency he has lost the name and character not only of a gentleman, but of a man. He has hopelessly and recklessly spoiled and ruined beyond all hope of recovery, a life that might have been beautiful and useful. He has brought an intolerable burden of misery on all with whom he has been in any way connected. He has become a member of the lowest rank in society, and all evil and crime and lawlessness find with him congenial companionship. These things and more are the price he has paid for his singular expertness. Still he has attained it, and we say "honor to whom honor." If it be matter for self-congratulation among men of intellect and learning that they, without a gasp, can take their "whiskey straight," then let us shake hands with this degraded wretch and be generous enough to acknowledge his superiority.

The great and noble-hearted founders of these universities would surely, if they could see the result of their efforts, repent them of their misplaced generosity. Evidently they looked on higher education as a mighty instrument for good, in moulding the nation's life and determining her destiny. They proudly dreamed of a time when a broad course of instruction would be the heritage of all, and when there would go forth yearly, from numerous universities throughout the land, bands of men whose influence would tend to diminish the enormous evils connected inseparably with an ignorant population. How startled they would be could they hear the wails of students bemoaning their inferiority, not in intellectual attainment, but in the low accomplishments of the bar-room.

If it be true that we are going behind in this matter, it is a cause not of grief, but of joy. The thoughtful and philanthropic world of to-day is massing for the consideration of the great problem of our age, namely, its drinking customs and the troubles that spring therefrom. They are looking to our universities for help. Education is a great power for good or evil, and the side with which it is allied must win the victory. If the day comes that drunkenness shall be unknown in our midst, and the students of every college of every name shall be banded on the side of sobriety, then shall the work of reform move swiftly to completion, and the great obstacle to social order and progress be removed.

SEA WEEDS.

Alone with the sea—
Is there never a voice
To return my heart's deep sigh!
Alone with the sea—
And the moon and the stars
That umine yon lowering sky!
Alone with the sea—
Can no one ell
What the secret of her unrest!
Alone with the sea—
I could throw myself
And weep on her heaving breast!

Alone with the sea—
I seem to hear
In her moan my soul's own lay,
Like the cry of a child
That has lost its home
And asks but to know the way!

The tempest went from the ocean cave,
And passed along the white sand;
A gentle breeze awoke in the south,
And hastened across the land;
And kissed the tear from the restless wave,
And the sigh from the sounding deep,
And soothed with the softest lullaby
The ocean at last to sleep.

The stars are bright in the sky to-night,
And the moon looks over the sea;
But deeply impressed within my lone breast,
Is a vision move lovely to me.

I hear the lave of the rippling wave,
And a whisper from every tree;
But over my soul a music doth roll,
That is sweeter than all to me.

On the mountain low lie the clouds like snow,
And a silence comes over the lea;
But a holier calm like some heavenly balm,
Is falling to-night upon me.

How beautiful now is the heaven's pure brow,
And the glory on land and sea;
But the moonlight stream of my fancy's dream,
Is dearer than all to me!

GOWAN LEA.

BOOKS AND THEIR INFLUENCE.

Not least among the advantages of a large and well stored library is that which, apart from the contents of the books, is found in the discussion of their external characteristics—the examination of their mechanical features; an occupation which never fails to induce a patient and loving spirit; as, through volume after volume, we trace the gradual progress of book-making from the days of Gutenberg down to our time. The multifarious works which have appeared on this subject may be taken as conclusive evidence of the charm which this species of labour has for some minds. Next to handling and commenting on the books themselves, is reading what others have said of them, and it has occurred to us that a mingling of heart-warm commentary with details of facts would prove neither profitless nor uninteresting.

Schiller wrote in his lofty language:—

"New shape and voice—the immaterial thought
Takes from the invented speaking page sublime,
The Ark which Mind has for its refuge wrought
Its floating archive down the flood of time.

Seneca says of books:—

"They are friends, no one of whom ever denies himself to him who calls upon them; no one takes leave of his visitor till he has rendered him happier and more pleased with himself. The conversation of no one of them is dangerous; neither is the respect to be paid to him attended with expense. You may take what you will from them. What happiness, what a glorious old age awaits him who has placed himself under the protection of such friends! He will have those whom he may consult on the most important and the most trifling matters, whose advice he may daily ask concerning himself, from whom he may hear the truth without insult, praise without adulation, and to whose similitude he may conform himself."

And we read in Beaumont and Fletcher:—

"That place that does contain
My books, the best companions, is to me
A glorious court, where hourly I converse
With the old sages and philosophers."

It appears that the booksellers of antiquity, in common with those of the middle ages and of the present time, were accustomed to affix their names to the works they published; from which it has often happened that in ancient manuscript the bookseller's name has been taken for that of their author. A work by Cornelius Nepos was for many years attributed to a bookseller of the time of the Emperor Theodosius, Æmilius Probus, under whose name the book had been subsequently printed.

The most ancient mention of a trade in books amongst the Greeks is found in Xenophon, who relates that the Thracians inhabiting the shores of the Black Sea, set apart a portion of the coast for the pillage of wrecked vessels. "They found," he says, "upon this shore, great quantity of beds, coffers, books and other movables, which the mariners carry in their chests." And we have the authority of Diogenes Laertius for believing that not only were there booksellers at Athens in the time of Zeno, the Stoic, 300 years before Christ, but that even thus early a species of literary meetings was held. Such, at least, is the inference from a passage in the "Life of Zeno," by the author just cited.

"Zeno, at the age of 30, came to Athens, where he seated himself near the shop of a bookseller, who was reading aloud the second book of 'Xenophon's Commentaries.' Struck with the recital, he enquired where such men could be found. Crates, happening to pass at the moment, the bookseller pointed him out to Zeno, saying, 'you have only to follow him.'" From which time he became a disciple of Crates.

The titles of books, were often printed in large characters, on the fronts of the shops where they were exposed for sale. The third epigram of the first Book of Martial appears to have been intended to be thus exhibited. Its title is:—

"To the Reader, on the place where the Author's Books are sold."

"Thou who desirest to have my books everywhere with thee, and wishest to make them the companions of thy distant journeys, buy those which the parchment holds between two short covers. Leave the thick volumes to libraries. However, that thou may'st know where they are sold, and thou may'st not go running over the whole city, I will serve thee as a guide. Go, find Secundus, the freedman of the learned Lucensis, behind the temple of Peace, and the market of Pallas."

The earliest recognized specimen of printing in the Greek character is the grammar of Constantine Lascaris, printed at Milan in 1476. The volume consists of 72 leaves, of which the first two contain a preface in Greek, with a Latin translation by Demetrius Cretensis, the editor.

The first Greek book printed in France was published at Paris by the celebrated printer Gilles Gourmond, in 1507, and was soon followed by others. It was a quarto, containing the Greek Alphabet, the sayings of the Seven Sages, a short treatise on envy, the golden verses of Pythagoras, the moral poem of Phocylides, the verses of the Erythraean Sybil upon the last Judgment, and a dissertation upon the difference in voices.

Printing in Greek was introduced in England in 1543; the first specimen was an edition of the "Homilies of St. Chrysostom." Up to the year 1599, the printers in Scotland possessed neither Greek nor Hebrew types; the spaces intended to be occupied by words in either of those languages were left blank in the books, and were filled in afterwards by hand.

Italic types derive their origin from the *cursive* characters employed in the chancery at Rome, and their name from the country in which they were first used. They have sometimes been designated "Venetian letters," because the first punches from which they were struck were made at Venice; and "Aldine" letters from having been invented by Aldus Minutius.

In 1567, types in the Saxon character were cast for the first time in England by J. Daye, for an edition of "The Gospels." The introduction of Chinese types into Europe is due to Kircher, who superintended the casting of them in 1663.

The most ancient specimen of Scottish printing is a volume published at Edinburgh in 1508. A license had been granted by James IV. to Walter Chapman and Andrew Millar, merchants, of that city, to establish a press in 1507. It was some years later before the "noble art" reached Ireland. The first printing in Dublin was in 1531; and in 1631, 100 years later, the first Latin work, by James Usher, was printed in that country.

Two hundred years ago, a Governor of Virginia "thanked God that there was no printing press in his colony; and he hoped that there would be none for 100 years, for learning had brought disobedience, and heresy, and sects into the world, and printing hath divulged these and other libels." The sour old royalist had not forgotten the mischief made in England by Pym and Prynne, and the printers who stirred up the people to sedition. And he had high authority for his pet aversion.

But the history of books is as endless as their tendency. Feltham says that "idle books are the licensed follies of the

age." The comparison was very apt, in Plutarch, "that we ought to regard books as we would sweetmeats; not wholly to aim at the pleasantest, but chiefly to respect the wholesomeness; not forbidding either, but approving the latter most."

In the words of Zimmerman:—

"Reading brings us, in our most leisure hours, to the conversation of men of the most enlightened genius, and presents us with all their discoveries. We enjoy, in the same moment, the company of the learned and the ignorant, of the wise man and the blockhead, and we are taught how to avoid the foibles of the human mind, without having any share in their bad effects."

We may range at will over the whole domain, explore its intricacies, or pass lightly from one sunny spot to another, saying with Pope,—

"Sworn to no master, of no sect am I;
As drives the storm, at any door I knock,
And house with Montaigne now, and now with Locke

A book belongs in a peculiar manner to the age and nation that produce it. It is an emanation of the thought of the time, and if it survive to an aftertime, it remains as a landmark of the progress of the imagination or the intellect. Some books do even more than this; they press forward to the future age, and make appeals to its maturer genius; but in so doing they still belong to their own—they still wear the garb which stamps them as appertaining to a particular epoch. Of that epoch, it is true, they are, intellectually, the flower and chief; they are the expression of its finer spirit, and serve as a link between the two generations, of the past and the future; but of that future—so much changed in habits and feelings, and knowledge—they can never, even when acting as guides and teachers, form an essential part; there is a bond of sympathy wanting.

A glance at our great books will illustrate this—books which are constantly reprinted, without which no library can be tolerated—which are still, generation after generation, the objects of the national worship, and are popularly supposed to afford a universal and unfailing standard of excellence in the various departments of literature. These books, though pored over as a task and a study by the few, are rarely opened and seldom read by the many, they are known the least by those who reverence them most. They are in short, idols, and their worship is not a faith, but a superstition. This kind of belief is not shaken even by experience. When a devourer of the novels of Sir Walter Scott, for instance, takes up *Tom Jones*, he, after a vain attempt to read, may lay it down with a feeling of surprise and dissatisfaction; but *Tom Jones* remains still to his convictions "an epic in prose," the fiction *par excellence* of the language. As for *Clarissa Harlowe* and *Sir Charles Grandison*, we have not heard of any common reader in our generation who has had the hardihood even to open the volumes; but *Richardson* as well as *Fielding* retains his original niche among the gods of romance; and we find *Scott* himself one of the high priests of this worship. One of our literary idols is *Shakspeare*—perhaps the greatest of them all; but although the most universal of poets, his works in the mass belong to the age of Elizabeth, not to ours. It has been said, if *Shakspeare* were now living he would manifest the same dramatic power, but under different forms; and his taste, his knowledge, and his beliefs would all be different. This, however, is not the opinion of the book-worshippers; it is not the poetry alone of *Shakspeare*, but the work bodily, which is pre-eminent with them; not that which is universal in his genius, but that which likewise is restricted by the fetters of time and country. It would be easy to run over, in this way, the list of our great authors, and to show that book-worship as contradistinguished from a wise and discriminating respect, is nothing more than a vulgar superstition.

When we talk of the authors of our generation pressing forward to claim the sympathy of the maturer genius of the next, we mean precisely what we say. We are well aware that some of the great writers we have mentioned have no equals in the present world; yet the present world is more mature in point of taste than their own. That is the reason why they are great authors now. Some books last for a season, some for a generation, some for an age, or two, or more; always dropping off when the time they reach outstrips them. One of these lost

treasures is sometimes reprinted; but if this is done in the hope of a renewed popularity, the speculation is sure to fail. Curious and studious men, it is true, are gratified by its reproduction; but the general reader would prefer a book of his own generation, using the former as materials, and separating its immortal part from its perishing body.

And the general reader, be it remembered, is virtually the age. It is for him, the studious think, the tuneful sing; beyond him there is no appeal but to the future. He is superstitious, as we have seen, but his gods are few and traditional. But how voracious is this general reader in regard to the effusions of his own day! What will become of the myriads of books which have passed through our own unworthy hands? How many of them will survive to the next generation? How many will continue to float still further down the stream of Time? How many will attain the honour of the apotheosis? And will they co-exist in this exalted state with the old objects of worship? This last is the most important question; for each generation will, in all probability, furnish its quota to the great books of the language, and if so, a reform in the superstition we have been speaking of is no longer a matter of mere expedience, but of necessity.

We are aware that all this will be pronounced rank heresy by those who make a great outcry when a favourite author is lightly spoken of. Such critics usually take credit to themselves for a peculiarly large and liberal spirit; but there seems to us, on the contrary, to be something mean and restricted in views that regard the man as an individual, not as a portion of the genius which belongs to the world. The true question simply is:—

Are great authors to be allowed to become practically obsolete—and many of them have become so already—while we stand upon the delicacies and ceremonies of book-worship?

One other kind of book we desire to say a word about *en passant*. We mean the ephemeral book of the hour.—This is a book-making age, and every man rushes to the press with his small morsel of imbecility, his little piece of favourite nonsense, and is not easy until he sees his impertinence stitched in two covers. Some one possesses the vivacity of a harlequin—he is fuddled with animal spirits, giddy with constitutional joy; in such a state he must write a book or burst; a discharge of ink is absolutely necessary to avoid fatal and plethoric congestion.

A musty and limited pedant yellows himself a little among rolls and records, plunders a few libraries, and lo! we have an entirely new work by the learned Mr. Dunce, and that after an incubation of only a month. He is, perhaps, a braggadocio of minuteness, a swaggering chronologer, a weather prophet, a man bristling with small facts, prurient with dates, wantoning in obsolete evidence. No matter, there are plenty of newspapers who are constantly lavishing their praises upon small men and bad books. A mendacious press will puff the book through a brief season, and then—it will go to feed the devouring maw of the past.

But these are not authors; these are as Douglas Jerrold christened them, “paper-stainers.” It must have been such a personage, who, meeting Jerrold, accosted him with, “I am told you said my last book was the worst I had written,” and met with the curt rejoinder, “No! I said it was the worst book ever written!”

Perhaps the best books to read for information (they should be so!) are such as were written in the times and among the events which they relate. We thus get a picture from sight, whilst in compilation, we have caricatures cut from hear-say. But few productions, however, that in their nature belong to passing events and interests are worthy to live beyond them, yet ever since the press began its work in Europe, some few have escaped that general doom, because of the salt which never loses its savour. The Drapier Letters have long survived William Wood and his patent for copper coinage against which Dean Swift wrote them. Much older works might be instanced; but, strange to say, these outlivers of their times are all “*against something*,” and amongst their numerous congeners yet written, or read by our own generation, those that have appeared *against* Louis Napoleon will be found the most enduring, because the cleverest books of the hour.

The habit of studying old books is, we fear, dying out. There is too much that is fresh and fair, and foolish to occupy our minds, and we are losing our grip of the substantial past, to grasp at the foolish of the fashionable present.

(To be Continued.)

A FEW WORDS ABOUT AN INTERESTING, BUT NOW EXTINCT RACE.

At the present period of the world's history we are so well acquainted with the human form, and all its varieties, that we can find little or nothing to excite our wonder, either in the course of our travels, or in the range of our reading. Nature seems to have grown as solemn, tame, and regular as a priest in a procession, and the lovers of prodigies have to regret that she sports no longer as in the days of yore. In colour, shape, size, or number of parts, we seldom find any animal that deserves the name of a *lusus*; and were it not that Barnum and other enterprising showmen occasionally treat us to the sight of dwarfs, giants, mermaids and woolly horses, we might suppose that Nature is now too old and sober to indulge in her youthful frolics. What additional zest was given to life, and what fresh interest to knowledge, by the narratives and cabinets of former ages! Let any one dip into the pages of Pliny's *Natural History*, that great magazine of ancient gossip and credulity, and he will there see how Nature trifled, and Naturalists were amused in primitive times. He will there see how she tried her freaks with the human form, not only in individual instances, but also on the scale of whole nations. Previous to the extraordinary information with which Pliny favours us in the 2nd chapter of his 7th Book, he solicits our belief in the following words: “In most points I shall not be content to pledge my own credit only, but shall confirm it in preference by referring to my authorities, which shall be given on all subjects of a nature to inspire doubt. My readers must make no objection to following the Greeks, who have proved themselves the most careful observers, and are, moreover, of the longest standing.”

With these preliminary remarks he at once dives into his subject, and introduces us to the Arimaspi, “a nation remarkable for having but one eye, and that placed in the middle of the forehead.” This race appears to have had an eye to business, for, as Pliny continues, “they carry on a perpetual warfare with the Griffins, or winged monsters, for the gold which they dig out of the mines, and which these wild beasts keep watch over with singular cupidity, while the Arimaspi are equally desirous of obtaining it.”

A second nation, who dwell beyond the Scythian Anthropophagi, in a certain great valley of the Imaus, “are a savage race whose feet are turned backwards, relatively to their legs; but who possess wonderful velocity, and wander about indiscriminately with the wild beasts.” Their neighbours are a tribe of men who have the heads of dogs, and clothe themselves with the skins of fierce animals. Instead of speaking they bark; and, being furnished with long claws, they live by hunting and catching birds. Ctesias, on whose authority Pliny here relies, states that they are more than 120,000 in number; and at the same time speaks of another race of men known as Monocoli, who have only one leg, but are able to leap with surprising agility. The same people are also called Sciapodæ, because they lie on their backs during periods of extreme heat, and protect themselves from the sun by the shade of their one foot. At p. 157 of “The Voyage and Travails of Sir John Maundevile, Kt.,” printed from a quarto on vellum, written about the year 1400, and now in the Cottonian Library, the worthy Knight gives the following account of this strange race. “In Ethiope ben many dyverse folk; and Ethiope is clept Cusis. In that Contree ben folk that han but o foot; and thei gon so fast, that it is marvaylle; and the foot is so large that it schadewethe alle the Body azen the Sonne, whanne thei wole lye and reste hem.” Pliny informs us they live not far from the Troglodytæ, or dwellers in caves, to the west of whom there is a tribe who are without necks, and have eyes in their shoulders. Omitting all mention of other marvellous races, I hasten on to the Astomi, the interesting, but extinct tribe, to

whom I am desirous of paying my earnest tribute of admiration. Before quoting Pliny, it may be well to transcribe Sir John's account of the Astomi, to be found at p. 297 of his "Voyage and Travail." "The folk of the Yle that is clept Pytan ne tyle not, ne laboure not the Erthe; for thei eten no manere thing; and thei ben of gode colour, and of faire schap, afre hire gretnesse; but the smale ben as Dwerghes, but not so litylle as ben the Pigmeyes. Theise men lyven be the smelle of wyld Apples; and whan thei gon ony fer weye, thei beren the Apples with hem. For zif thei hadde lost the savour of the Apples, thei scholde dyen anon. Thei ne ben not fully resonable, but their ben symple, and bestyalle." Pliny's account of them is more circumstantial. "At the very extremity of India," he writes, "on the Eastern side, near the source of the river Ganges, there is the nation of the Astomi, a people who have no mouths. Their bodies are rough and hairy, and they cover themselves with a down plucked from the leaves of trees. These people subsist only by breathing, and by the odours which they inhale through their nostrils. They support themselves upon neither meat, nor drink; when they go upon a long journey, they carry with them only some odoriferous roots, flowers and wild apples, that they may not be without something to smell at. But an odour, which is a little more powerful than usual, easily destroys them."

What an amiable, gentle and interesting race, and how much it is to be regretted that it is now extinct! These "most delicate monsters" were indeed deprived of one feature of the human countenance which possesses an endless charm for painters, poets and lovers, but along with it disappeared a thousand ills to which our flesh is heir. With the Astomi there was no toiling for necessary food—no eating of bread in the sweat of their face. With them, no scarcity was ever created by wicked combinations among speculators in wheat. With them, society was not plundered by farmers, millers, butchers, bakers, cooks and confectioners. With them, toothaches were never felt, and dental surgery was unknown. In their happy country there was no wrangling, no mob oratory, no tumultuous mass-meeting. With them there was no noisy forum; no factious senate; no jabbering city council; no Teachers' Convention. In their quiet societies no female orator "talked you dead." No political pretender insisted on entrusting you with state secrets. No scandalmonger tried to make you an accomplice in killing character. The whole business of society was transacted as quietly as if by telegraph, and parties of pleasure were silent as the historical four and twenty blackbirds in the pie—before it was opened. Nevertheless, the Astomi were not without the sensual enjoyments of life, or an abundant supply of luxuries suited to their refined appetite. Their food and drink were the delicious odours of roots and fruits, leaves and flowers. They inhaled their nourishment through the organ of smell, and pampered their palate through their olfactory nerves. They could breakfast plainly on a plate of rosebuds, and dine luxuriously on the fragrance of a nosegay. The perfumes of the garden, and the scents of the orchard, or the forest, were their only meals. Their store-rooms and pantries were filled with sweet-smelling fruits, dried herbs, aromatic leaves, and bottled essences. Like Titania's favourite they were fed in Summer

"With apricots and dewberries,
With purple grapes, green figs, and mulberries."

On a journey or a march, their magazine of provisions consisted of baskets of flowers, or collections of fragrant herbs. Their banquets took place in their gardens, and while they appeared to be sitting idly in the midst of a parterre, or carelessly ranged around a flower-plot, they were greedily inhaling their invisible dinner. However varied their bill of fare, it had reference only to the nose. Instead of our familiar invitation, "Come and eat your beef or your mutton with me to-day," they would say in their language (tongue, of course, it could not be called), "Come and smell your violets or pine apple with me this evening." The epicures among the Astomi were known by the fineness of their scents, and the piquancy of their essences; and their gluttons by the length of their meals and the quantity of their inhalations. But notwithstanding the delicate nature of their viands, it seems that the sensualists among them were

not exempted from the distempers that attack their brethren who have mouths and grosser appetites. For, according to our author, they were sometimes carried off by too strong an ethereal diet, and expired in the ecstasies of an aromatic apoplexy.

Correspondence.

To the Editors of the MCGILL UNIVERSITY GAZETTE.

Sirs,—In your issue of February 1st there appears some column or so of some miserable attempt at wit, purporting to have been sent you by W. A. De W.

As I am, as far as I can find out, the only man with such initials in the medical building, I have been accused several times of being the author of the effusion and it has already caused some coolness on the part of some who have hitherto been among my friends at the college. In justice to myself, therefore, I would ask you to publish my denial of being the author of such a low piece of work, or of having anything to do with it.

I remain, Sirs,

Very truly yours,

W. A. DE W. SMITH.

[Although the contribution to which Mr. Smith refers was signed with the initials W. A. De W. it is needless for us to say that we never for a moment suspected that that gentleman was capable of writing such a miserable attempt at wit. We are very sorry that the resurrection which our Poetical Editor caused amongst the contents of our Waste Paper Basket should have led to any coolness between Mr. Smith and his friends, and we sincerely hope that upon the appearance of this denial he will immediately be received back into the bosoms of his fickle admirers. Whoever may have written the poem in question, it was certainly unwarrantable for him to make use of the initials W. A. De W. and we think that the matter ought at once to be investigated in order that the culprit may be brought to light.—Eds.]

Sporting News.

HOCKEY.

During Carnival week, great numbers of people visited the open air rink on the College grounds, and evinced great interest in the hockey tournament. Although the Victorias won the championship, the result need by no means discourage our men, as will be seen from the following resumé of the matches played during the week.

MATCHES.			
Victorias, (champions),	- - -	won 4,	lost 1.
Ottawa,	- - - - -	" 4,	" 2.
McGill,	- - - - -	" 3,	" 2.
Crystals,	- - - - -	" 1,	" 3.
Wanderers,	- - - - -	" 0,	" 4.

Had time permitted, it would have been better to have had the matches played off in pairs in the usual way, as the Ottawa and Victoria teams are now in reality equal, having won one match each. Most of the matches with the Crystals and Wanderers went by default. We may mention that several members of the Ottawa team were old McGill men, whom we were very glad to see amongst us once more.

The following are the matches in which the McGill team took part:—

MCGILL VS. VICTORIAS.

The admirers of the popular and exhilarating game of hockey collected in goodly numbers to witness the opening of the grand hockey tournament on the rink at the McGill College Grounds on Monday afternoon. There were also present many who were strangers to the sport, but who evinced the greatest interest in the proceedings. The ladies were well represented notwithstanding the fact that the weather was bitterly cold. The Victoria and McGill Clubs opened the tournament. Both teams were in fine trim and the ice was in splendid condition. The following were the teams:—

VICTORIA.		MCGILL.	
G. Dunn	Goal	Hutchinson	
Shearer	Point	J. Elder, Capt.	

J. Arnton, Capt.	.....	Cover Point,	.....	Budden
Stevenson	.....	Centre	.....	Ogilvie
F. Ash	.....	Forward	.....	Craven
E. Shepherd	.....	"	.....	Brown
J. Muir	.....	"	.....	Fairbanks
J. W. Richards	.....	Umpire	.....	Jas. McCarthy
Referee	.....		.....	N. T. Rielle.

The ball was faced at 4.30 p. m., and after a short scrimmage travelled towards McGill's flags, where Elder got it and rapidly sent it to the other end of the rink, but it was rapidly returned by Shearer. Some good play now took place in the centre of the rink, and the ball passed rapidly from side to side. It was gradually got up towards McGill's flags, but Elder as point was simply impregnable, until a rally took place close to the College goal-men's goal, when Stevenson put the ball through securing the first game for the Victorias—time, fifteen minutes. The ball was again faced and some sharp play ensued, but the game was principally a defence one for the McGill men during the remainder of the first half hour.

After a rest of ten minutes goals were changed and play was resumed. The College men seemed now to realize that they had their work cut out for them, and settling down to it with a determination to win, they forced their opponents hard, and many a time the Victoria's flags were in danger. After twenty-five minutes of magnificent play, the ball was put through the Victoria's goal, but the umpire held that the ball had gone behind the flags and was brought out and put through without a bully, and accordingly ruled "no game." The McGill men protested against this, and appealed to the referee, but he also upheld the ruling of the umpire for the Victorias, whereupon the College men refused to play any longer and left the ice. Elder and Ogilvie were decidedly the strongest men on the McGill team, while Ash, Muir and Shearer did some good work for the Victorias.

OTTAWA VS. MCGILL.

On Thursday morning, 7th February, there was a very large attendance to witness the contest between teams from the Ottawa and McGill College clubs. The McGill team were the same as played the Victorias, with the exception of H. D. Johnson, who replaced Fairbanks. The Ottawa team were:—

Jenkins	.....	Captain and Forward.
Kirby	.....	do
Gallagher	.....	do
Young	.....	do
Green	.....	Centre.
Kerr	.....	Point.
Law	.....	Goal.

It was thought that the Governor-General would be present, and the committee had made comfortable arrangements for him and suite, having built a neat stand on the west side of the rink. Through some misunderstanding, His Excellency did not arrive, much to the chagrin of the players and crowd. The weather was beautiful, and the ice in splendid condition. The play for the first half hour was excellent throughout, the teams being very evenly matched, and playing hockey in a scientific manner. Every man on each side did his full duty, and when time was called neither side had any advantage. On the second half McGill played for the first fifteen minutes well together, dodging in capital style. This rather flustered the Ottawas, who bunched up too much, and time and again Green saved the goals of his side. McGill, however, closed up, and Ogilvie getting a good shot, sent the rubber through the Ottawas' flags, winning the first goal in ten minutes, amidst great cheering. Play was at once resumed, and the Ottawas in the latter part of the game made it very interesting, putting McGill on the defensive, and two or three times almost making a goal. The McGill play, however, was too much for them and the referee called time before another goal was won. McGill therefore won by one goal.

OTTAWA VS. MCGILL.

On Saturday morning the 9th., the McGills and Ottawas met for the second time. The men composing the McGill team were the same as those that played on Thursday, and the Ottawas had the same men as before. It was seen from the very

first that the Ottawas were playing a better game than they did on Thursday; indeed, so strongly did they play that when half time was called they had two goals to their credit both of which were taken by Jenkins, while the McGills had none. After a short rest the game recommenced, and although things looked very blue for our men they went to work with the determination to change the aspect of affairs. For a while they kept the ball near the Ottawa's goals, but Kerr got away with it and made a splendid run, bringing the ball right up to the McGill goals. His shot was stopped by Hutchinson, but Kirby who had followed up the ball, secured it and before Hutchinson had recovered himself had sent it flying between the poles, thus scoring the third game for the Ottawas. The positions of the McGill men were then changed, Johnson being put in goal and Craven at point, Elder and Hutchinson playing forward. This change had a beneficial effect, and after that our men had decidedly the best of the game, keeping the ball in dangerous proximity to the Ottawa's goals, but they could not manage to secure a goal. When time was called the Ottawas were declared the winners by three games to none. They played a magnificent game throughout, playing well together, and following the ball up far better than the McGill team. The best forward playing was done by Kirby and Jenkins, who time and again rushed the ball through the McGill forwards and placed them on the defensive. Their defence was also very strong, but it was not called very much into play until near the end of the game. On the McGill side Brown and Budden did some dashing play as forwards; Elder was hardly up to his usual mark, but still he saved his side several times; in goals Hutchinson was a regular stone wall, stopping shots again and again. The play all round was rather rougher than on Thursday, and fouls were of frequent occurrence, but the best feeling prevailed between the men, and they cheered each other heartily at the finish.

We may mention in connection with the match with the Victorias that the umpires were on wrong sides when the dispute referred to arose.

During the present season McGill has in all won six matches and lost only two.

INTERCOLLEGIATE CONTESTS.

It has been questioned whether the American colleges do not make a mistake in permitting intercollegiate games of football; and the series of disasters and accidents which have attended such matches is so long as to suggest that in this case certainly "*le jeu n'en vaut pas la chandelle*." In England the results of the game are as deplorable as in America. An English paper says: "At the Oxford University football matches, . . . several serious accidents occurred. Mr. Gore received serious injuries, but is progressing favorably. Fowler of Magdalen sustained a fracture of one of his legs. At Cambridge, in the Rugby match between University and Kensington, Colbourn Hope broke his leg, and another "Cantab" was very much hurt. One of the Kensington men had his nose smashed, and another severely sprained his ankle. Most of the players received slight injuries, and minor casualties occurred in other games." Harvard University, which has taken an honorable lead in the wise development of athletic sports as an element of manly discipline, is the first to raise this question; but we understand that it has come up for consideration in other institutions, so that there is reason to hope that this brutal sport may give place to others more in consonance with our civilization. In the University of Pennsylvania, an association of graduates and *alumni* has been formed to establish a gymnasium on the system so ably organized by Dr. Sargent of Harvard; and the trustees have offered the use of the ground south of Spruce Street and west of Thirty-Sixth for the purpose. In Dr. Sargent's system, a careful examination and record are made of the physical condition of the student, and he is set to do those things for which he probably will have the least inclination, but which will do him the most good. The result of this discipline is ascertained by periodical examinations, and the directions are modified as the record seems to require. The object kept steadily in view is the health of the student though his harmonious physical development.—*The American*, Philadelphia.

FOOTBALL.

THE annual meeting of our Football Club was held on the evening of the 11th. Though the attendance was not very large, yet the enthusiasm of those present augurs well for a good season next year. Moreover, the newly-chosen officers of the club are all energetic men who will do their best to make McGill football a success.

After preliminary business, the Treasurer, J. S. Hislop, read his report. This showed 50 paid-up subscribers, and a balance on hand of \$15. The meeting then proceeded to election of officers for next year. A good choice was made when G. C. Wright was unanimously elected president of the Club, for, as was said in the nomination, he is one who has always been active in football matters, having played as a member of the team. Only one nomination was made for captain of the team, and that was J. Elder, of Medicine. The vote was hearty and unanimous; the enthusiasm with which Elder was put into office clearly showed the confidence that the club has in his ability for this difficult position. As new captain he outlined his intentions for next season. He said that the only point—and it was very evident that they were weak in this—as to which the team of this year was weak was in team-play. As team practice could not be obtained in the afternoon, he would insist on the team turning out in the mornings. This had been done by the Montrealers during the last season, and with such success that they intended to continue morning practice three times a week. This would give an opportunity to the college team which we must take advantage of. To lighten the arduous work of the captain, Craven, second year Science, was elected assistant captain; Treasurer, R. Robertson; Secretary, S. Ogilvie. The General Committee, which also consists of the officers of the Club, *ex-officio*, is:—A. W. Smith, E. DeF. Holden, Kerry, Budden, H. Johnson. Two sections of the constitution were then amended.

Sect. 3 now reads:—"Members of the club shall consist of all students taking lectures in McGill University who have paid their annual subscription."

This change was made to include any who might be from one reason or another taking a partial course, and who, though not full undergraduates, were yet *bona fide* students of the University.

Sect. 11, which refers to the time of meeting, now reads:—"The annual meeting shall be held as soon after the close of the season as the committee shall think best."

The meeting then adjourned. This brings to a close a year which has seen a decided increase of interest in the noblest of games, the game of football.

SNOWSHOEING BY MOONLIGHT.

If thou would'st view a lovely sight,
Go snowshoe by the "pale moonlight;"
The trees hang heavy with snowy limbs,
The wind their crusted outline trims.

The cold air echoes every sound,
On every dale, on every mound,
The beaming light of vivid Queen
Throws lustre of a gorgeous sheen.

We tramp along with jest and song,
No lurking fears to us belong,
The wavy snow our feet beneath
Seems like a soft resistless heath.

O wondrous night! the gleaming waste,
Sends back our shouts, as on we haste
O'er field, thro' forest till the midnight deep
Warns us to seek the well-earned sleep.

Then homeward glide we thro' the snow,
On ruddy cheek, a lively glow,
With memories keen of fairest skies
To which these dazzling beauties rise.

"CNOCK ELACHAN."

College World.

MCGILL.

FACULTY OF MEDICINE.

As the calls upon the time of the Primary classes were somewhat numerous, it is stated that Cook was enregistered and ably represented his absent classmates in the pursuit of knowledge.

THINGS were rather dull last week at the College. As nearly every Med. was frequently obliged, much against his will, of course, to go and see a maw; the lecture rooms were seldom uncomfortably crowded.

ON Thursday evening the 7th., about three hundred students from the smaller colleges escorted the Governor-General from the Windsor to the Lansdowne Toboggan Slide, carrying torches. By agreement, no McGill men took part.

THE students' reception, given by the Y. M. C. A. was a grand success. It was very well attended, and after spending a most enjoyable evening and partaking freely of good things both intellectual and edible the students scattered to their homes or elsewhere—principally elsewhere.

AND now the average Med., having sworn off till exams. are over and said good-bye to his girl for the nonce;—proceeds to borrow some other man's notes and study up his examiner's hobbies, that he may appear to "speak as one having authority" when the exam. comes round. Surely it's an ill wind that blows nobody good.

As suggestions about future carnivals appear to be all the rage at present, we would suggest that next year the Faculty should arrange that the lectures should be delivered in the billiard room of the Windsor. Practical work could be done at the bar and the clinics might be given in the ice palace. If this course should be adopted we may reasonably expect that the attention to work during carnival week will be greater than at any other part of the session.

It is rumored that a gentleman of this city is about to add his name to those of McGill's benefactors by erecting a building similar to the Redpath Museum for the use of the Faculty of Applied Science. It is also said, that the building will contain a convocation hall, but that no steps will be taken in the furtherance of this design until the return of Dr. Dawson. We cannot vouch for the truth of this report, but fervently hope that it is not altogether unfounded.

ON Wednesday evening, the 6th inst., there was a general turn out of the students to view the bombardment of the ice palace. The procession proceeded from the Arts building and fought its way through the dense crowd by St. Catherine Street to the scene of action. The college ensign, a gown on a pole, led the way, and college choruses were sung to the accompaniment of unearthly sounds, produced by horns and other melodious instruments. After the sham fight the streets were paraded, and having marched back to Dominion Square the army broke up after having formed a large circle and treated the concourse to "God Save the Queen" and "Auld Lang Syne."

HIS Excellency the Marquis of Lansdowne with the Marchioness and suite visited the college on Tuesday, 5th inst., and was presented with an address by the University. His lordship's reply, which was printed in the daily papers was expressed in very appropriate terms. A large number of members of Convocation were present, and the undergraduates, principally of the Faculties of Arts and Applied Science occupied the centre of the hall. During the proceedings several songs were sung by the students, including the National Anthem, "For he's a jolly good fellow," "Litoria," and others. The reception accorded to the Marchioness was especially enthusiastic. After inspecting the Library the vice-regal party drove away amidst deafening cheers. We hope that our noble Visitor will give us the pleasure of seeing him at McGill on many future occasions.

UNDERGRADUATES' LITERARY SOCIETY.

AT the regular meeting on the 1st inst., Mr. Mackay read a clever, but somewhat one-sided paper upon the "Life and Writings of Anthony Trollope." Mr. Mackay is too warm an

admirer of that novelist to be an impartial critic, and consequently his essay was rather eulogistic than judicious. The subject for debate was: "Has Trial by Jury Proved a Failure?" The affirmative opinion was upheld by Messrs. Wright, F. Pedley and Turner, who were opposed by Messrs. Calder, Livingston and J. P. Gerrie. The discussion was protracted to a length almost tedious, and it was a relief to both audience and speakers when the question was finally put to the vote. In fact, when any debate excites no more than usual interest, six speakers are too many, especially if, as in this case, all are fairly fluent and possessed of the talkative man's tendency to prolixity.

UNIVERSITY LITERARY SOCIETY.

At the meeting on the 1st inst., after the minutes had been read and confirmed, the report of the public debaters was read. They recommended that the debate take place in the Windsor on the evening of the 22nd., and that the subject be "Should Phonetic spelling be adopted in the English language?" Affirmative, Messrs. G. W. Arthy and F. Hague; Negative, Messrs. R. J. Elliot and J. Mackie. On the motion of Mr. Oughtred seconded by Mr. A. McGoun, the report was adopted. We have since learned that Mr. Hague has withdrawn his name and refuses to take part. If this be the case, Mr. Hague will certainly owe the Society some explanation, as he should have withdrawn his name at the time of the election and not put the Society to such inconvenience. Mr. Campbell's motion, of which he had given notice, was then taken up. He moved, "that for the better regulation of the subjects for debate, this Society do adopt the following rules: I. That the Corresponding-Secretary do keep a list or book to be called the Debate Book. II. Any member proposing a subject for debate shall do so by inscribing the same in the said book. III. Any member may become opposer in the debate on such subject by writing his name opposite the subject so proposed. Members of the committee shall signify their approval of any subject so proposed by initialing the same, and no subject shall be debated which is not initialled by a majority of the members of the committee. IV. If more than one subject so become eligible for debate, that approved by most members of the committee shall be the subject at the next meeting of the Society not otherwise occupied. The subject having the next greatest number approving shall be appointed for the succeeding night." The general opinion was that these rules were too cumbersome and they were consequently modified and passed in a simplified form. The gist of the regulation, as it now stands, is that the Corresponding-Secretary is to keep a suggestion book in which subjects may be entered by any member for the approval of the committee.

It was moved by Mr. McGoun, seconded by Mr. Campbell and carried, that all the expenses authorized by the committee in connection with the public debate be defrayed by the Society at large and not by the speakers.

The debate was then proceeded with. The subject, "Is the Malthusian Theory Sound?" was argued on the affirmative by Messrs. Cross and R. J. Elliot, and on the negative by Messrs. McGoun and Oughtred. The decision of the meeting was in favor of the affirmative. On the 8th inst. there was no meeting on account of the carnival.

GENERAL.

SEVERAL Yale men are making arrangements to start an illustrated college paper.

A COLLEGE residence is being advocated for the University of New Brunswick, Fredericton.

THE annual expense incident to the foundation of Fellowships at Toronto University will amount to \$5,000.—*Dalhousie Gazette*.

AN excellent portrait of Samuel Rogers, the poet, has been presented to Harvard College by Dr. William Everett, and it will be hung in Memorial Hall.

THE "Trinumus" of Plautus has lately been performed by the Queen's Scholars at Westminster, with that accuracy and finish for which the "Westminster Play" has long been famous.

MR. ALFRED BAKER, Lecturer in Mathematics, in Toronto University has resigned the command of the College Company in the Queen's Own Rifles. Press of business is the reason he assigns.

THE Christmas number of the *Hamilton (Ky.) College Monthly* was very tastily gotten up, and contained several appropriate illustrations. Of the literary matter the poetry was especially good.

J. F. McCURE of Cambridge has written a "History of American College Journalism." There are 190 college papers in the United States, the oldest of which is the *Brunonian*, founded in 1829.

THE Senate of Queen's University endeavor to have the examinations for matriculation in medicine made equal with the examination in Arts. The Senate of Victoria College has been asked to co-operate. The matter has been referred to a committee.

THE twenty-sixth examinations under the auspices of the Cambridge University Syndicate have obtained a much larger entry than ever before. The total number of candidates is:—Boys, 5,010, as compared with 4,574 last year; girls, 3,277, as compared with 3,066 last year.

THE number of years a medical student must study before he receives a degree is, in Sweden ten, Norway eight, Denmark seven, Belgium, Holland, Italy and Switzerland six, Russia, Portugal, Austria and Hungary five, France, England and Canada four, United States three or two and Spain two.—*Ex.*

THE cadets of the Mass. Inst. of Technology in Boston gave the first exhibition of their drill in the gymnasium on January 12th before a thousand spectators. After the drill was over the cadets and their friends danced for the remainder of the afternoon, as many as fifty-six sets being on the floor at one time.

THE Christmas number of the *Dalhousie Gazette* contained a long article on Lord Lorne and Lord Lansdowne, which, although rather inclined to sentimentalism, was well written and interesting. The rest of the paper was practical and well filled with news. It contained, of course, the inevitable Christmas articles.

MR. ALEXANDER G. RICHEY, Q.C., LL.D., Deputy Regius Professor of Feudal and English Law in the University of Dublin, an able lawyer and a learned historian, died on the 29th November last, in his fifty-fourth year. Mr. Henry Brougham Leech, Professor of International Law, has been appointed as his successor.

THE December number of the *V. P. Journal* contained some interesting selections. Of the contributed articles the only ones worth notice are "A Plea for the Study of Classics," "What is Truth?" and "Sketches in China." A plea for denominational colleges and some editorial notes make up in large measure the rest of the paper.

THE *Thielensian*, published by the literary societies of Thiel College, Pa., came to us for the first time in December. One of the articles advocates the teaching of penmanship in colleges. We presume that something different is understood by a college from what we generally mean by the term. Surely men ought not to enter college before they at least know how to read and write.

OUT of a population of 25,000,000, England sends out 5,000 students to her two universities. Scotland, with a population of 4,000,000, has 6,500 university students, and Germany, with a population of 43,000,000, has 22,500 in her various universities. The New England States, with a population of 4,110,000, send nearly 4,000 students to their eighteen colleges and universities.

THE Christmas number of the *King's College Record* contained twenty-six pages of reading matter. A letter from Cambridge, giving a glimpse of the University life there, was very interesting. The poem on "The Forests of Nova Scotia," is the best which we have seen for some time in a college paper. The same number contains a sketch of the life and writings of Judge Haliburton. The *Record* is on the whole a credit to Canadian journalism.

WILLIAM and Mary College of Virginia has closed its doors, having but one student at the beginning of this school year. Next to Harvard, this was the oldest college in America, having been founded in 1693, and was the only one that received a royal charter. Among the most eminent men educated in its halls were Washington, Marshall, Randolph, Tyler, Breckinridge and General Scott.

THE Association for the Education of Women in Oxford has issued its notice of lectures to be given in the Lent term, including a list of those University and College lectures which are open to students of the association. For the first time a lady is placed upon the list of lecturers of the association. Mrs. Marshall will lecture on Political Economy, taking for her subject—Labour; the economic conditions of its well-being. The courses of lectures began on Monday, January 21. The association have instituted a system of instruction by correspondence, particulars of which may be obtained of Mrs. Ewing, 17, St. Giles, Oxford.

THE East London Union For Advanced Education evening classes have, during the last four years, been doing much good work among the young men employed or resident in that populous district. The Union purposes now by a widely-extended organization, to maintain in the East of London an educational centre, where instruction in the higher branches of knowledge will for the lowest possible fees be afforded by teachers of well-ascertained ability. The work began with four classes, and the number at the present time is thirty-four, which have been attended by 4,200 students, 1,000 of whom may be reckoned for the present session. The Duke of Albany is President.

Acta Victoriana defends the practice of hazing in the following words: "Nearly all Freshmen are conceited. It is natural for them to be so. While preparing for matriculation, they were the senior pupils of some High School or Collegiate Institute, and gradually formed the idea that they were extremely clever, and this idea breathes forth in every word and gesture. If such young men were not checked, this idea would keep on developing, and by the time of graduation the presence of the students would be intolerable. Hence we see the necessity of an antidote or remedy of some kind which fortunately we have, and it is no other than that misrepresented and abused practice.—Hazing."

THE *University Quarterly*, published at New York University, entered upon its seventh volume in November. In general appearance the *Quarterly* could hardly be surpassed. An excellent portrait of John Hall adorns and enhances the value of the journal. Six or seven pages are taken up with book reviews, and a large number with matters of purely local interest. The editorials and contributions exhibit a fair amount of ability, but, on the whole, they are not above the average. In an article on the "Need of the Moral Element in Education," the writer makes a most absurd attack upon the promoters of secular education, accusing them, among other things, of wishing to exclude all moral teaching and to interdict all religious instruction. He ought to have known that they do not wish to exclude purely moral teaching, and, with regard to religious teaching, that they merely object to its being paid for by the State.

ANANDIBAI JOSHEE, a Hindoo woman of the highest Brahminical caste, is a student in the Woman's Medical College of Pennsylvania. The mark indicative of her rank is on her forehead. She is said to be the first Brahmin woman who ever left India. One of the principal articles in the Brahminical faith strictly enjoins that no Brahmin shall cross the ocean. She is scarcely five feet in height, and, although quite plump, is graceful in her motions. In order to keep her caste while here she must live by herself, prepare her own food, wear the native costume, and rigidly observe certain religious rites. If she is faithful in these things, when she returns to India there will be a meeting of the principal Brahmins, who will hear her confessions, and then absolve her from her transgressions. She is highly educated, and a remarkable linguist, speaking seven languages fluently, among them Sanscrit. She was asked if she had any difficulty in acquiring English. "Oh, no," she replied,

"it was very easy after Sanscrit. My husband taught me. I studied English five years with him, but I did not speak it at all until I went on board ship." She speaks so well that it is difficult to believe this, and she writes better than she speaks.—*Ex.*

PRESIDENT WHITE has received a letter from G.P. Pomeroy, United States Consul-General at Cairo, Egypt, dated Dec. 13, 1883, stating that the Egyptian mummy secured for Cornell University by that gentleman would leave Cairo for Liverpool en route to this country at once. Inclosed is a report by Emile Brugsch Bey, a Director of the Museum of Egyptian Antiquities. The mummy, he says, probably belongs to the twenty-third dynasty, and came from the Necropolis of Thebes. It is that of a man named Peupi. The mummy is enveloped in pasteboard or cartonnage, which is painted in bright colors with many figures and texts. On the head is the sacred beetle, and on the breast the sketch of a necklace imitating pearls and other precious stones. The lower part shows a vulture with a man's head, holding in its claws some seals, the emblem of eternity. Under the vulture is to be seen a sparrow hawk spread over the mummy, and also holding a seal in each claw. Another picture is that of the serpent Aracus, followed by the god Osiris, before whom the deceased Peupi is seen in adoration. The middle of the pasteboard, commencing from the lower part of the sparrow hawk, represents the sacred emblem of the god Osiris, and contains the following inscription: "Praseynéme to Osiris, the god of Amenti, the good god, the ruler of Abydos, may he give good repose to Peupi, the justified." A number of other pictures and texts appear, the latter giving the names of the different divinities and the formulæ of offerings.

THE subject of the appointment of a professorship of the languages of South-Eastern Asia, having been for some time under consideration by the Senate of University College, London, it has now been decided to appoint M. Terrien de la Couprie to be the first occupant of the chair. The special study which the new professor has made of the comparative relationship of Chinese and the Indo-Chinese group of languages will add considerable importance to his lectures upon the languages and literature of those nations now so prominent in the Franco-Chinese question. M. De la Couprie has for some time been prominent as the advocate of a new and at first sight startling theory of the origin of Chinese writing and literature, a partial exposition of which he put forward in his recent learned and lengthy study of the "Ti-King," the oldest book of the Chinese, published in the journal of the Royal Asiatic Society. In this work, and in his monograph on the origin of Chinese civilization, he has endeavoured to establish a connection between the early Chinese Bak tribes, or Hundred Families, and the Akkadian tribes of Babylonia. This theory has received the support of some of the leading students of Asyriology, and also of Professor Douglas, who, in conjunction with M. De la Couprie, will publish a complete translation with notes and commentary of the "Ti King."—*London Times.*

Between the Lectures.

THE PRETTY VASSAR SENIOR.

Did you on the Campus pass her?
That's the finished maid of Vassar,
Whose wisdom—like Minerva's—mighty,
Blends with the charm of Aphrodite.

With language elegant and tropic.
She can handle any topic.
And will thrill you, if it suits her,
Till your heart's not worth a kreutzer.

Owner of a thousand graces,
Decked in satin, silk and laces,
And deep diamonds that so glisten,
Forth she comes; oh, let us listen.

Now your whole mind she'll be teasing,
With things Asian, Roman, Grecian,

Take you through without apologies,
All the ologies and mythologies.

She knows Shakespeare's, Goethe's fancies,
New books, pamphlets and romances—
German mind-mists pessimistic,
And that night-mare Nihilistic.

Every reign and revolution,
Chemistry and evolution,
Stars and suns and epochs, during
Ages past and pre-Silurian.

The very Crichton of a daughter—
She rides a horse and rules the water—
Works at the easel, and can play
Lawn-tennis, archery and croquet.

She can tell each tongue's declension,
Talks of Azimuth, right ascension,
And gives 'you tunes—there is no fagging her—
Of Schubert, Mendelssohn and Wagner.

Fascinating, fawn-like creature,
Fair in form and fine in feature.
Sweet as a zephyr from Samatra,
A pretty, rose-lipped Cleopatra.

—JOEL BENTON.

EXAMINATION PAPERS.

There can be no doubt whatever, that the unusually brilliant answering in the Primary Medical Examinations last year was entirely due to the students having prepared themselves by a careful study of the examination papers which were published upon those subjects in the GAZETTE last year. At the urgent request of the faculty, therefore, we publish a similar set this year upon the final subjects, feeling sure that the same satisfactory results will ensue and that thus a long felt want will be supplied.

HYGIENE.

1. Wherewithal shall a young man cleanse his way?
2. What circumstances would lead you to kill a given Plumber? How would you perform the experiment?

MEDICAL JURISPRUDENCE.

1. What is the best way to persuade the coroner that an autopsy is necessary in a given case?
2. Describe Acute Primary Dementia. In your own case was it succeeded by Alcoholic mania the day after the exams and by Melancholia when you found you were plucked?

MEDICINE.

1. How would you diagnose between a case of Empyema and a case of Champagne? What is the effect of each upon the system? Is the treatment the same?

2. Give the ætiology and morbid anatomy of the following diseases:—

(a) De Novo. (b) Great Jawcoo. (c) Tempus Fugit. (d) Pro tanto. (e) Tomassy Crudeely. (f) Sui Generis. (g) Similia Similibus curantur.

3. Tell all you know about Damphinomyosis.

SURGERY.

1. What is Frank Hamilton? Draw diagram to prove it.
2. Who struck Billy Patterson? What fracture did he probably produce and how would you treat it?
3. Tell the best "bulet story" you know.—(Question number 3 is for honor men only.)

OPHTHALMOLOGY.

1. How would you diagnose a bully boy with a glass eye from a case of acute glaucoma?
2. Give the diagnostic points between a case of alcoholic amaurosis and a "blind drunk."

3. Demonstrate the use of a big big D—in performing an operation on the eye.

CLINICAL SURGERY.

1. What fee would you charge for making a free incision?
2. What is the best antiseptic to use in severe case of Christmas decoration? Is it advisable to place the nurses under a spray of mistletoe during the operation?
(No diagrams allowed.)

3. What structures could you cut through in the course of a few hours spent in hunting for the Anterior Tibial Artery by torchlight?

CLINICAL MEDICINE.

1. Can you diagnose a case of *alibi* from one of *felo de se*? I can't.
2. Where are the reports to-day? (No answer is expected to this question.)
3. How many times is it necessary to walk a patient up and down the ward in order to diagnosticate cerebral hemorrhage in a case of Thrombosis? If so—why so? If not—why not? Prove it.

MIDWIFERY.

1. Which would you rather do or read Lusk?
2. What stimulant do you prefer taking before attempting to break the news gently to the unhappy father if it happens to be twins? If so, how much? Write formula in full.

GYNÆCOLOGY.

1. How might Cavallo's oyster stews act (a) as a predisposing cause, (b) as an exciting cause; (1) of Chronic Cervical Endometritis, (2) of Subacute Perimetritis? How might Christmas cards act? How might Johnston's Fluid Beef and Souvielle's Spirometer act? How might Vennor's thaw act? How might almost anything act? (Write legibly and on one side of the paper only.)

2. Name if possible a Gynæcologist who has never christened a speculum, modified a pessary, or tried to perform Lawson Tait's operation. (This question inserted by special request of Barnum, who wishes to obtain such a man for his show.)

A JEW'S EYE TO BUSINESS.

A JEW, who was condemned to be hung, was brought to the gallows and was about to be turned off, when a reprieve arrived. He stayed to see a fellow-prisoner hanged, and on being asked why he didn't go about his business, answered,—“I'm waiting to see if I can bargain with Mr. Ketch for the other gentleman's clothes.”

The Dalhousie Poet thus records the deeds of their “Nine Forwards at Windsor” in the football match with King's College:—

“Peeled all their shins were,
Peeled but they did not care,
Charging the King's men there,
Slipping and sprawling while
Onlookers hollered,
Plunged in the mud and muck,
Right through the line they broke.
All of the King's men
Reeled, when Dalhousie “kuck,”
Shattered, disordered.
Then they limped back, but not
Not the Nine Forwards.”

A LEARNED professor, who rashly engaged in an argument with Mr. Greeley on the subject of the value of a classical education, was at last driven in despair to his last argument. He said:—“You must admit, Mr. Greeley, that the Greek and Latin are the conduits through which all the learning of the ancients comes down to us.” “I do,” replied Mr. Greeley, “but during the day I drink several glasses of Croton water. Is it therefore necessary that I should first breakfast upon lead pipe?”

A COUNTRY schoolmaster, who never wrote so much as a pamphlet, told a census officer that he was engaged in the profession of literature.

ONE of our younger aspirants for mathematical distinctions upon hearing the other day that the University was about to present an illuminated address to the Governor-General innocently enquired if it was to be illuminated by electric light, and was quite disappointed when his informant told him that they were only going to use a coal oil lamp.

NEW BOOKS.

Walbank.—Adjustments of the Dumpy Level; Rosinini.—Origin of Ideas, vol. 1; Green.—Prolegomena to Ethics; Maudsley.—Body and Will; Kant's Prolegomena and Metaphysical Foundations of Natural Science; Zeller.—Eclecticism and Greek Philosophy; Benn.—The Greek Philosophers -2 vols.; Sidgwick.—Principles of Political Economy; Jamin.—Cours de Physique—4th vol.; British Association for the Advancement of Science—Reports from 1877 to 1882, 6 vols.

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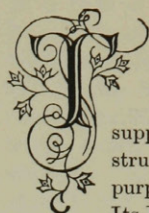
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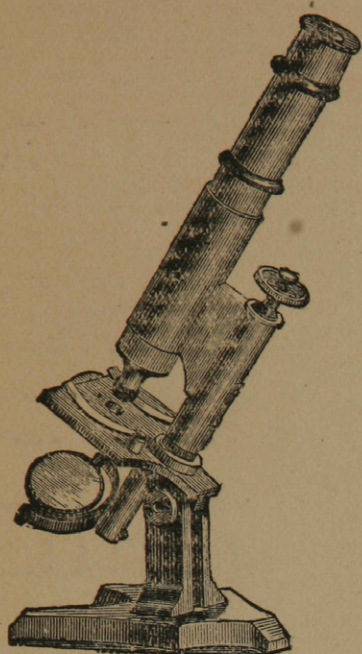
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